Welcome Back

We would like to welcome back all of our GSHS students, families, teachers and staff members. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a wonderful summer break, and are now ready for the new challenges and opportunities that 2014 will hold for us all.

In Memory of a dedicated Teacher and Friend

Vale Sheelagh Hutton

It is with great sadness that we experienced the passing of Ms Hutton over the Christmas holidays. Ms Hutton has been a teacher at Gladstone State High School for 18 years and with Education Queensland since 1976. During her years at this school she was well known for her untiring support and valuable work with the Interact Club, but also most importantly for the positive difference she achieved with students as an Experienced Senior English and Social Science Teacher.

Ms Hutton's love and interest in the performing arts lead to her involvement in numerous school musicals. This commitment and passion to the school will be honoured with an award which will be presented on Awards Night.

Ms Hutton epitomised what it meant, to lead without a badge. She was a sounding board, a knowledge base, a wealth of experience and a kindred spirit to many. Her purpose was to selflessly get the best out of her students. Going beyond data and numbers, she wanted to lead her students to achieve the best they could to become better people. Ms Hutton as a teacher, friend and a mother who will be sorely missed.

We extend our condolences to her family and all of her friends during this difficult time.

A memorial ceremony will be held at Gladstone State High School on Friday the 7th February 2014 commencing at 9.10am in the school hall.

Volleyball school of excellence

CHANGE OF DATE FOR TRIALS
Trials will now be held on the 4th of February for the girls year 9, 10 and Open teams. Trials will be held at Gladstone State High Schools hall at 4pm till 7pm.

Good Luck
Volleyball starts again. Late last year a number of our talented volleyball players attended the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup which took place in Melbourne. The school finished 6th overall in Australia out of 99 schools with 474 teams. We were the only regional team in the top 15. The senior girls coached by Brian Van Der Weide finished 4th in Open girls Honours. The year 10 boys coached by Danielle Lambert finished 2nd in U/16 division 1. The year 10 girls coached by Sarah Hanisch finished 2nd in U/16 division 1. The year 9 girls coached by Braiden Ruge finished 5th in U/15 girls Honours. The year 8 girls coached by Kara Brooks finished 3rd in U/14 division 2.

This year we are hoping to continue our success.

Trials will be held on the 4th of February for the girls year 9, 10 and Open teams. Trials will be held at Gladstone State High Schools hall at 4pm till 7pm.

Good Luck

Principal’s Desk

Welcome to Term 1 2014. While there are many activities for students happening outside of the classroom at the start of the term, we must make sure that we engage every student in our first priority which is improving student learning/results. I will continually communicate with the school community about ‘Reaching for the Stars’ values/behaviours of Safe, Responsible, Respectful and Engaged in Learning. These values are not just needed for life at school but will assist students to create their future as they travel the road ahead.

Timothy Sharp, in his book 100 Ways to Happy Children (A Guide for Busy Parents), writes ‘One of the constant challenges for parents is finding a balance between consistency and flexibility. There is no easy solution to the problem of when to stick to our guns and when to bend a little, but as long as you understand the need for balance you’ll probably hit the mark. As parents, we need to remember we won’t get it right 100 per cent of the time!’ This is also true for teachers managing students. Issues can arise for both parents and teachers, because consistency does not mean that we have to treat all children the same. We all know that each child is unique and sometimes they may respond differently to certain approaches and consequences for actions. However, basic approaches and the core values (listed in the student planner page 5a) which underpin the adult responses should not differ significantly, and this is perhaps the best way to achieve a form of consistency with the required flexibility.

I have enjoyed my first days at this wonderful school with motivated students, great teachers and caring support staff. I look forward meeting many of you over the coming semester at school functions.

Glen Donald
Acting Principal

Uniforms for 2014

STUDENTS OUT OF UNIFORM
• Students who are unable to wear the uniform on a given day for a legitimate reason must bring a note from their parent/caregiver explaining the circumstances.
• NOTE: Students wearing shorts that do not have the GSHS logo are “out of uniform”
• The student’s Care Teacher will complete the Uniform Pass section in the Planner and record it on their Care Class Roll.
• If you arrive late to school, after signing in at the office, you must go to PBC immediately to register being out of uniform and have your planner completed, then go to class.
• If a student does not bring a note they must report to the PBC at lunch for a 20 minute consequence. If you do not go at first break, your will be collected at second break for a full lunch break consequence.
• Throughout the day if you cannot show the planner entry when asked you will be sent to PBC to have it completed. You will also be issued a lunch time consequence for not having the entry completed at the appropriate time.
• If wearing board shorts, denim, rugby shorts or inappropriate footwear, you will be sent to PBC immediately as these are not allowed even though a note may have been provided. Parents will be contacted to bring more suitable attire or the student will remain in PBC for the day to complete their school work.

UNIFORM SHOP
OPENING HOURS
Monday: 8:15am-11:15am
Wednesday: 11:00am-2:00pm
Friday: 8:15am-11:15am
SIGNING OUT EARLY:
Parents are asked, where possible, to avoid making appointments for your student during school hours. However, if this occurs it is the student's responsibility to catch up on work that is missed. Parents are reminded that if you are signing your student out it must be done through the office. If you meet your student at the gate, then our records will show the student as truanting.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE:
It is asked that all students make reasonable efforts to be in their Care Class on time. Students arriving late are expected to have a note of explanation from their parent / care giver or parent / caregiver to escort the student into the school. Parents are reminded that all late students even if they are only 5 minutes late are to be signed in by the office.

DONATIONS OF PRE-LOVED UNIFORMS:
If you have any pre-loved GSHS uniforms that you wish to donate please drop them into the Admin Building at GSHS.

ABSENTEES NOTES:
Parents are asked when notifying the school of a student’s absence via a written note, email, SMS or message on the absentee phone line please include the students full name, form class, dates that they are absent and reason for being absent.

Leadership Day

Gladstone State High School students lead the way

The student leaders from Gladstone State High School are proving leadership is more than just a badge. The leadership team, which consists of 61 students, came together on the first day of term one to create a vision and action plan for what their school can achieve in 2014.

Gladstone State High School aims to provide their students with the knowledge, skills and confidence required to make a positive contribution to society. This is evident from the comprehensive leadership team that has been established.

In addition to the student captains, vice captains, SEP leader and Indigenous leader, five teams of 11 students have been elected to concentrate their efforts on a particular area of schooling life. These areas of focus include culture, sport, environment and inclusion, with an executive committee working closely with the school captains and these teams.

Gladstone State High School Year 12 Coordinator, Kim-Maree Lambert, hopes this structure will encourage the whole student body to get involved and lead to new and innovative student initiatives being implemented that address the true needs of the school.

“We are encouraging all our senior students to become part of the wider school leadership team not just the 61 students directly involved with the 2014 school leaders team. Our school captains have just returned from an inspiring and motivating three day leadership conference in Brisbane, where they developed the skills and knowledge to implement the yLead philosophy that ‘leadership is any action that makes the world I touch a better place.’”

The day will be facilitated by yLead, a not-for-profit association that empowers students to live positively and be active leaders in their schools and communities. The school has partnered with yLead for many years now, preparing students for their roles as active, inspiring and effective leaders.

“Our school captains participated in yLead’s Australian Student Leadership Conference earlier this month. They have returned full of ideas and enthusiasm about how they can make an impact in our community. We asked yLead to also join us in Gladstone so we can engage the rest of our student leaders,” says Ms Lambert.

Using a unique blend of fun activities and interactive discussions, yLead will assist the students in developing their leadership goals and plans, whilst getting the group working together to form a positive and united cohort.

Year 8 Meet and Greet

Who: Year 8 Parents/Guardians and Students
What: A meet and greet with your child’s teachers
Where: Students will take their parents/guardians to their classroom initially before moving down to C Block for a cooked breakfast
When: Friday 7th February, 7:30am
Quick News

Three seniors offered USA university Scholarships for Volleyball
- Skye Calvert- Hutchinson
  College Kansas
- Rebekah Pearce- Colby
  University Illinois
- Katelin Morison(2012 senior)
  Ellsworth College Iowa

Arts and Drama Auditions:
Are you new to the school and a talented singer, dancer or musician? Creative Generation is a huge state wide concert for State School’s best singers, dancers and musicians. The concert is in Brisbane in Term 3. You have the chance to audition for this show! Please see Miss Strudwick in the Arts Staffroom (P Block) or Miss Clifton in the Music Room (R Block) to ask any questions or to arrange an audition!

YEAR 8 CO-ORDINATOR WELCOME
A huge and warm welcome to all of the year 8 students starting at Gladstone State High School this year. It has been an absolute pleasure meeting you all. I look forward to the year ahead.

YEAR 9 HOUSE PICNIC
What: House picnic and dodge ball comp
Who: All Year 9’s
When: Wednesday First Break
Where: Hall
What to bring: Yourself, your lunch, team spirit
What to wear: House coloured socks and accessories

School Sport

Welcome back to 2014!
It’s shaping up to be another big year in sport here at GSHS with almost 20 representative sporting opportunities, 12 interschool sporting competitions as well as our many inter-house competitions! Term one is an especially busy time with many of the Port Curtis and Capricornia trials happening at the start of the year as well as interschool sport and our GSHS Swimming Carnival! Below is a calendar of what’s happening in sport in term one. Students should listen to notices and check out the PE noticeboard for more information or go and see Miss Hanisch in the PE staffroom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Who</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Softball Nominations Port Curtis</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls U/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>3th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis AFL Trials</td>
<td>Girls 16yrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>3th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Volleyball Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls U/15 &amp; Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>3th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Tennis Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Opens</td>
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<td>3th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Cricket</td>
<td>Open Boys</td>
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<tr>
<td>3th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Swimming Nominisations Due</td>
<td>Boys &amp; All ages</td>
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<td>10th Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Cricket</td>
<td>Open Boys</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Capricornia Tennis Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Open</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Capricornia Softball Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Open</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Capricornia Cricket Trials</td>
<td>Boys Opens</td>
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<td>11th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Touch Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls U/15 &amp; Open</td>
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<td>12th Feb</td>
<td>Interhouse Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Open Boys</td>
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<td>17th Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Cricket</td>
<td>Boys U/15 &amp; Opens</td>
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<td>19th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis Rugby League Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Opens</td>
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<td>Port Curtis Basketball Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Opens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Port Curtis Hockey Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Opens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Port Curtis Football Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Open</td>
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<td>25th Feb</td>
<td>Port Curtis AFL Trials</td>
<td>Girls U/16</td>
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<td>Port Curtis Rugby Union Trials</td>
<td>Boys Opens</td>
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<td>Port Curtis Squash Nominations</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Opens</td>
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<td>Port Curtis Netball Trials</td>
<td>Girls U/15 &amp; Opens</td>
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<td>26th Feb</td>
<td>Interschool Volleyball</td>
<td>Opens</td>
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<td>27th Feb</td>
<td>Capricornia Volleyball Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls U/15 &amp; Open</td>
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<td>Boys &amp; Girls U/15 &amp; Open</td>
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<td>Opens</td>
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<td>6th March</td>
<td>Capricornia Rugby League Trials</td>
<td>Boys U/15 &amp; Opens</td>
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<td>Capricornia Basketball Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Open</td>
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<td>Capricornia Hockey Trials</td>
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<td>Capricornia Football Trials</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Open</td>
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<td>12th March</td>
<td>Interschool Volleyball</td>
<td>Years8-10</td>
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<td>13th March</td>
<td>Capricornia AFL Trials</td>
<td>Boys U/15</td>
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<td>Capricornia Squash</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Opens</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Capricornia Netball</td>
<td>Girls U/15</td>
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<td>19th March</td>
<td>Interschool Volleyball</td>
<td>Year 8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>21th March</td>
<td>Capricornia Surfing Trials</td>
<td>Opens</td>
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**Nurse News**

**Your health matters!**

Your school based youth health nurse Marisa can talk with you about your health and wellbeing or help get you in touch with the right service. You can talk to the health nurse about:

- Healthy eating and physical activity
- Feeling unhappy or stressed
- Relationships
- Healthy skin
- Personal and family problems
- Growth and development
- Sexual health
- Smoking, alcohol and other drugs

Your health nurse is located in D block at the top of the stairs and works in the school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Have a happy and healthy week.

Yours in health

Marisa Farlow
School Based Youth Health Nurse

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**New School Planners**

We have a new planner for 2014 which is produced by Learning Curve Planner. There are supporting sections online for both Students and Parents. You are welcome to access the website www.learningcurveplanner.com.au.

Each student must have their planner at every lesson, every day. Students are “out of uniform: if they do not have their planner and must bring a note explaining why they don’t have it. No note will result in a 20 min PBC lunch detention. If a student loses their planner they are required to purchase a replacement planner within a week. New planners can be purchased from the School Cashier for $10.

You may wish to use the planner to communicate with the school at the bottom of the right hand side page.

You will notice two lots of page numbering:

- Our school pages (policies and procedures) are numbered 1a, 2a, 3a, etc.
- The Learning Curve planner pages are numbered 1, 2, 3, etc.

Page 3 explains the best way to use the learning curve planner.

Each week in the newsletter we will highlight the weekly focus.

(available on the website under Parent Focus: Secondary)

In the right hand page margin in the planners is a Home Learning/ Study Session Log for home study sessions. This is intended to assist students to be self-managed, resilient and prompt their consciences. After a student completes a session they should cross it off the Log. The aim is to have the required number of sessions completed each week and achieving this will have a positive effect on their self-esteem and build their living, learning and thinking power. Having it initialled by parents will help the students take more responsibility for their learning and increase parental involvement.

“It's great to plan, but more important to then work the plan.”

**THIS WEEK**

Junior Planner (P28) Prioritising
Senior Planner (P30) Prioritising

Prioritising is a life skill that enables students to become self-aware and self-managing in using their time more effectively. Reflecting on and then arranging their daily/ weekly activities and commitments in order of importance build their self-awareness and independent learning power.

The reality is that most students find it very difficult to just sit down to complete a Home Learning Session unless it is planned ahead of time. The “spontaneous” approach of just letting it happen doesn't work, even though our students may disagree because they may believe they have their acts together. The best way for students to build their resiliency is to prioritise their activities and then design a structured timetable that includes all the activities that occupy their time, including:

- Sport training
- Study and home learning
- Favourite television shows and games
- Leisure activities
- Part-time jobs
- Social networking sites
- Family commitments

Because students’ brains are not fully developed, they need our support and guidance in learning how to arrange activities in the right order. It’s not that they won’t do it, they haven’t the anatomical brain capabilities to do it consistently as yet.

Their attitudes towards achieving life balance will benefit considerably when they are willing and able to become more discerning in identifying “musts” and “options” in their lives and the time they allocate to each of them. Prioritising will actually create more “me” time for them.
**Dates to Remember**

- **5th Feb**
  - Year 9 House Picnic

- **6th Feb**
  - Year 8 House Picnic

- **7th Feb**
  - Year 8 Meet and Greet Breakfast

- **12th Feb**
  - Swim Carnival

- **14th Feb**
  - Valentines Day Fundraising

- **18th Feb**
  - School Photos

- **21st Feb**
  - Pink Day- McGrath Foundation

- **26th Feb**
  - Mad Hatters Whole School Picnic

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**Chaplain Chat**

Before I report on our inaugural GSHS alternate schoolies, I’d like to let you know about our inaugural GSHS alternate schoolies to Sri Lanka. The cultural shock and level of poverty for some of the population was really challenging. The streets are absolutely alive with cars, severely overcrowded old buses, trucks, bicycles, tuk tuks and motorbikes which are all honking madly for a variety of reasons. We helped in a preschool and community centre for 2 weeks which was also very different from what we are used to! However, partly during the second week, each of us began to feel a little more familiar with the routine, students and teacher and that’s where the real connections began to happen. We came away knowing that we had made a positive difference and Chantelle, our Yr 12 student, enjoyed the experience so much she just might learn some Singhalese and come back as a guide with our 2014 Schoolies! We were very humbled when our host teacher and tuk tuk driver gave each of us a small gift and invited us to return. We stayed with a host family and ate the most delicious banquets at every meal! I was amazed to see 3 goannas (iguanas) and wallabies coming into bloom and I saw the same weeds that we have here in Australia. As chaotic as the traffic seemed to us, the Sri Lankan drivers all knew how to make it work. I will produce further snippets as an appetizer to invite Year 12 Students to choose Volunteer Abroad for their Schoolies in 2014.

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**Student Planner**

THIS WEEK

- Junior Planner (P28) Prioritising

- Senior Planner (P30) Prioritising

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**GSHS CORE VALUES**

**VALUES**
- To empower students to reach their full potential through quality learning experiences in a supportive and challenging school environment.

**RESPONSIBILITY**
- Give your best
- Be dependable
- Make appropriate choices
- Be fair • Have a go
- Take your opportunity to lead, otherwise be a good team member

**EXCELLENCE**
- Doing your best
- Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable
- Try hard
- Keep trying and pursue excellence
- Expect high standards

**RESPECT**
- Value yourself and others
- Respect your environment
- Act and speak courteously to everyone
- Be kind to animals
- Foster good relationships
- Foster school pride

**HONESTY**
- Be truthful and sincere
- Be trustworthy
- Admit your mistakes
- Learn from your mistakes
- Seek truth, good and right

**SAFETY**
- Look out for yourself and others
- Practice safe and healthy habits
- Follow the rules

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**PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your student is away for any reason there are several ways of notifying the school.

- Phone on 07 4976 6158
- Email on absentees@gladstonshs.eq.edu.au
- Use the notification slip in the Newsletter each week
- Use the slip in your student’s diary
- Text absences on 0407096034

We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.